



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Roger D. Breed, Ed.D., Commissioner
Scott Swisher, Ed.D., Deputy Commissioner

301 Centennial Mall South ■ P.O. Box 94987 ■ Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4987
Telephone: 402-471-2295 (Voice/TDD) ■ Fax: 402-471-0117
<http://www.nde.state.ne.us>

January 2010

TO: Nebraska School System Superintendents and ESU Administrators

FROM: Vickie Scow, Director, World Language Education
Donlynn Rice, Administrator, Curriculum/Instruction

SUBJECT: Visiting Teacher from Germany Program

The **Visiting Teacher from Germany Program** is being offered by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation in Berlin. The Visiting Teacher from Germany Program provides local school districts with the opportunity to fill vacant teaching positions in any subject area. With this program, Nebraska school systems have the option of recruiting highly qualified German educators for a period of up to three years and at the same time provide Nebraska students, parents, and communities the opportunity to work with professionals from other countries. Teachers from Germany are certified educators with at least three years of experience. Local school districts hire the exchange teachers in accordance with all other local policies in terms of salary scale, certification, and local system requirements.

This program strives to:

- Foster German-American relations
- Promote knowledge and appreciation of the culture shared by these two global communities
- Foster an educational environment that supports both students and teachers in their continued and future effort toward personal, academic, and professional success

NDE will host a five-day orientation session for all first-year German exchange teachers. Orientation activities include obtaining a social-security card, applying for a teaching certificate, and training in the code of ethics. Other activities include an overview of technology resources, distance learning, Nebraska Foreign Language Frameworks, curriculum planning, assessment, instructional strategies/best practices, culture comparisons, school expectations, and classroom management. The orientation will be followed by a fall retreat to resolve challenges and concerns. NDE will assess a \$1200 fee per teacher to participating districts to cover food, lodging, and materials for the orientation training and follow-up weekend retreat.

Please disseminate this information to the school principals or respective officials in charge of hiring. If your school district is in need of a qualified teacher from Germany, in any subject area, and might be interested in the program, please complete the Application of Intent, which is accessible online at www.education.ne.gov/forlg/VisitingTeachers.htm. This is an Application of Intent only and expresses a local school district's interest in participating in the Visiting Teacher from Germany Program for the 2010-2011 school year. It does not obligate the local school system to hire teachers from Germany. All Applications of Intent must be returned to the Nebraska Department of Education by **April 1, 2010**, to be considered. A detailed explanation of the Visiting Teacher from Germany Program and information about a variety of programs available to local school systems is also available online.

If you have any questions, please contact Vickie Scow, Director of World Language, by phone at 402-471-4331 or e-mail vickie.scow@nebraska.gov. Thank you for your interest in this program and for your continuing support of world language programs in Nebraska.

Vickie Scow
Vickie Scow, Director
World Language Education

Donlynn C. Rice
Donlynn Rice, Administrator
Curriculum/Instruction

State Board of Education

Kandy Imes
President
District 7
1850 20th Street
Gering, NE 69341

Jim Scheer
Vice President
District 3
P.O. Box 16
Norfolk, NE 68702

Robert Evnen
District 1
301 South 13th Street
Suite 500
Lincoln, NE 68508

Kerry T. Winterer
District 2
12388 Rose Lane
Omaha, NE 68154

Rebecca Valdez
District 4
3922 South 23rd Street
Omaha, NE 68107

Patricia H. Timm
District 5
1020 North 21st Street
Beatrice, NE 68310

Fred Meyer
District 6
1580 Highway 281
St. Paul, NE 68873

Joe Higgins
District 8
5067 South 107th Street
Omaha, NE 68127